

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 01199 180755Z

11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 DHA-02 SAM-01 /089 W
----- 061669

R 180640Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4040

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USUN NEW YORK 1206

AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLAS PRETORIA 1199

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PDEV, WA, SF

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: TURNHALLE CONFERENCE ASKS SA TO
STAY FOR PROTECTION

1. DELEGATIONS TO THE TURNHALLE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE
IN NAMIBIA MARCH 16 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A MOTION ASKING
THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE FOR THE TIME BEING
TO PROTECT THE TERRITORYS NORTHERN BORDERS AND TO MAINTAIN
LAW AND ORDER. THE MOTION WAS PROPOSED BY OWAMBO CHIEF
MINISTER NDJOBA AND THE LEADER OF THE WHITE DELEGATION
MR A H DUPLESSIS. MOTION CAME TO VOTE SHORTLY AFTER
DELEGATES WERE TOLD THAT SWAPO INSURGENTS MARCH 13 OR 14
ABDUCATED AN OVAMBO HEADMAN FROM HIS KRAAL. IT WAS ALSO
REPORTED THAT A FINNISH NURSE AND AN OVAMBO ASSISTANT WERE
INJURED IN A LANDMINE EXPLOSION NEAR THE OWAMBO-ANGOLA
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PAGE 02 PRETOR 01199 180755Z

BORDER, ABOUT 30 MILES EAST OF OSHIKANGO BORDER POST.

2. BLACK DELEGATES REJECTED SEVERAL KEY CLAUSES IN THE ORIGINAL MOTION WHICH WOULD HAVE EXPANDED SCOPE OF REQUEST TO INCLUDE " MAINTENANCE OF A SOUND ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT." DELEGATES REPORTEDLY ARGUED THAT SUCH A REQUEST COULD BE SEEN AS A CALL TO RETAIN SOME ASPECTS OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT. A CLAUSE REFERRING TO " IMPROPER INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE" WAS ALSO REJECTED BECAUSE SOME DELEGATES EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS SOME LEGITIMATE INTEREST IN THE TERRITORY. AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE CONFERENCE'S DECLARATION OF INTENT, THE WORD " PEOPLES" IN THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS SUBSTITUTED BY " INHABITANTS" IN THE APPROVEDVERSION, THEREBY AVOIDING PUTTING EMPHASIS ON THE ISSUE OF ETHNIC DIVERSITY. BOWDLER

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